

FORM PTO-1390
(REV 10-94)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

12691.4USWO

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.5)

TO BE ASSIGNED

09/254578

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/CZ98/00030

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE

9 July 1998

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED

10 July 1997

TITLE OF INVENTION

FILE, PARTICULARLY NAIL FILE

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

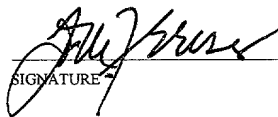
BLAZEK, Dalibor

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(l).
4. ☐ A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
 - a. ☒ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☒ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US)
6. ☐ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
 - a. ☒ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☒ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An unsigned oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
10. ☐ A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

Items 11. to 16. below concern document(s) or information included:

11. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
12. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A FIRST preliminary amendment.
☐ A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ A substitute specification.
15. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
16. ☐ Other items or information: IB/308, regular transmittal

U.S. APPLICATION NO (If known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.53(a))		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER	
TO BE ASSIGNED		PCT/CZ98/00030		12691.4USWO	
17. [X] The following fees are submitted:				CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY	
BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492(a) (1)-(5)):					
Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO.....				\$840.00	
International preliminary examination fee paid to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)).....				\$670.00	
No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but international search fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)).....				\$760.00	
Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(3)) paid to USPTO				\$970.00	
International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(2)-(4)				\$96.00	
ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =				\$840	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than [] 20 [] 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).				\$0	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total claims	10 -20 = 0		X \$18.00	\$0	
Independent claims	1 -3 = 0		X \$78.00	\$0	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$260.00	\$0	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$840	
Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Verified Small Entity Statement must also be filed (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).				\$0	
SUBTOTAL =				\$840	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than [] 20 [] 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				+ \$0	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$840	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				+ \$0	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$0	
				Amount to be refunded	\$
				charged	\$
a. [X] Check(s) in the amount of \$840 to cover the above fees is enclosed.					
b. [] Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
c. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.					
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO John J. Gresens MERCHANT & GOULD 3100 Norwest Center 90 South Seventh Street Minneapolis, MN 55403					
				SIGNATURE  John J. Gresens NAME	
				33,112 REGISTRATION NUMBER	

09/254578

300 Rec'd PCT/PTO 10 MAR 1999

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: BLAZEK, Dalibor Docket No.: 12691.4USWO
Serial No.: TO BE ASSIGNED (Corresponding to PCT/CZ98/00030)
Filed: 10 March 1999
International Filing Date: 9 July 1998
Title: FILE, PARTICULARLY NAIL FILE

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL176168486US

Date of Deposit: 10 March 1999

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By:

Walter M. White

Name: Walter White

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PCT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application filed herewith, please enter the following preliminary amendment:

IN THE ABSTRACT

Insert the attached Abstract page into the application as the last page thereof.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Enclosed is a copy of Form PCT/IB/308 indicating communication of the international application to the Designated Offices. A courtesy copy of the present specification is enclosed herewith, however, but the World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) copy should be relied upon if it is already in the U.S. Patent Office.

09/254578

IN THE CLAIMS

Please enter the claims as amended during prosecution of PCT/CZ98/00030 under Article 19 as the claims to be examined in this application. A courtesy copy of the Article 19 amended claims and Statement under article 19 (1) is enclosed herewith, but the World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) copy should be relied upon if it is already in the U.S. Patent Office.

Please amend the Article 19 claims as follows:

In claim 3, line 1, please replace "according to claims 1 or 2" with ---according to claims 1---.

In claim 4, line 1, please replace "according to claims 1 or 2" with ---according to claim 1---.

In claim 8, line 1, please replace "according to any of the above claims 1 to 7" with ---according to claim 1---.

In claim 9, line 1, please replace "according to any of the above claims 1 to 7" with ---according to claim 1---.

In claim 10, line 1, please replace "according to any of the above claims 1 to 10" with ---according to claim 1---.

REMARKS

A new abstract page is supplied to conform to that appearing on the publication page of the WIPO application, but the new Abstract is typed on a separate page as required by U.S. practice.

The above preliminary amendment is made to include the amendment to claim 1 made during prosecution of PCT/CZ98/00030 under Article 19 and to remove multiple dependencies from the claims.

The amendment to claim 1 reflects the principal innovative feature of the file described in International application No. PCT/CZ98/00030, i.e. the fact that the working surface is directly formed from the same material and is an integral part of the body of the file. This feature distinguishes it from the other technical solutions cited and constitutes an inventive step qualifying the device for patent protection.

By contrast to this simple integral structure as indicated in amended Claim 1, the nail file described in US Patent No. 5,361,786 has a multi-bead glass surface attached to a substrate formed, for example, from silicone polymer. Likewise, the subject of Canadian Patent No. 2, 142,949 consists of a substrate of fibreglass material with diamond particles electroplated to the top surface thereof. US Patent No. 2,699,791 involves a device formed from coated abrasive sheets bonded to thin strips of sheet metal or wood. Compared to the structural complexity of these other inventions, the technological simplicity of the invention described in Application No. PCT/CA98/00030 results in reduced production costs. Further important characteristics resulting from this integral structure are the good functional features and the fact that the file is absolutely resistant to the environment in which it is used.

Reference will be made to the amended claims, in a revised version of the description, by insertion of the appropriate wording in the first paragraph of the Summary of the invention, on page 1 of the Application.

The structure of the file in question is not obvious to a person skilled in the art, and consequently involves an inventive step. In our opinion, the file according to International application No. PCT/CA98/00030 is simpler and therefore cheaper to produce than the current multi-layer nail files. Its present absence from the market is further indication that the structure of the file is not obvious.

Applicant respectfully requests that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

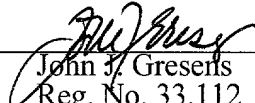
If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicant's primary attorney-of record, Michael B. Lasky.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT, GOULD, SMITH, EDELL,
WELTER & SCHMIDT, P.A.
3100 Norwest Center
90 South 7th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 332-5300

Dated: 9 March 1999

By: _____


John J. Gresens
Reg. No. 33,112
JJG/ssh

ABSTRACT

The file, the body of which is provided on at least part of its surface with a roughness varying from 10 to 100 μ m, is made of flat, pressed or hardened glass. The file can have a variety of geometrical shapes and cross sections.

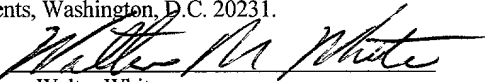
CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL176168486US

Date of Deposit: 10 March 1999

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By:



Name: Walter White

Patented by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

1PRT3

09/254578

300 Rec'd PCT/PTO 10 MAR 1999

WO 99/02064

PCT/CZ98/00030

File, particularly nail file

Field of the invention

The invention involves a file, particularly for nails, manufactured from glass.

Description of the prior art

Nail files, which are among the principal components of the various sets of cosmetic equipment, are at the present time manufactured from various metals or their alloys, from paper or fabric with a rough finish, as the case may be. Since files destined for such purposes are often used in an environment with high humidity, for example during personal hygiene in the bathroom, it happens in some cases that they corrode or the material from which the file is made becomes moist resulting, on the one hand, in a deterioration in appearance and, on the other, a dulling of the cutting edges of the file from the effects of corrosion and humidity and, thereby, a basic loss of effectiveness. If non-corrosive materials are used in the manufacture of files, which is generally the case, then the disadvantage is the high price. The disadvantage of metal files in which the cutting edges are formed by mechanical means is also the limited "smoothness" of the file, and the fact that by mechanical means it is possible to produce only a limited degree of roughness of the abrasive surface. Likewise, it is simply not possible to produce a series of files with finely graded roughness. It is convenient, in the use of a file, that the side edges be functional, that is rough. Because metal files are flat and too thin, it is not practical to use their side edges to trim the nails.

Summary of the invention

The above disadvantages are eliminated in the file according to the invention presented here, the basis of which lies in the fact that it is made from glass roughened on at least part of its surface, with a roughness varying from 10 to 100 μm .

The advantage of such a file is its absolute resistance to the environment in which it is used. It is significant too that, given its non-corrosive properties, the abrasive surfaces can be kept clean by rinsing in water.

It is important to note here the wide range of surface roughness that can be attained, varying from the smoothest finish with a roughness of 10 μm to a roughness of around 100 μm .

09254578-0449

The glass body of the file has an oblong board shape and has a point at one end at least. The advantage of such a shape for the glass body of the file is the ease of manipulation in use and, thanks to the point, its practical value for hand hygiene is increased.

Another advantageous solution to be noted is the fact that the glass body of the file is roughened along one whole side at least, having a V-shaped point at the end. The advantages of such a file are apparent both during use of the file and during its manufacture, when roughening of the whole surface is carried out without the need, for instance, to mask part of the surface during the roughening process by use of acid engraving for example. The point is formed in a V shape, its symmetrical shape facilitating manipulation during use of the file in either the left or the right hand.

A further advantageous feature is the fact that body of the file is roughened along one whole side at least and is ground to a sharp finish on at least one edge. The longitudinal edge formed on one side of the body of the file further increases the functional possibilities of the nail file.

It is possible to form the body of the file so that both edges are bevelled, while the bevelled edge at the end is at an oblique angle to the side edge, so that together they form a point. This variation further increases the wide range of uses for the file.

Another advantageous arrangement for the shape of the body of the file, consisting in the fact that the surface of at least one of the edges and of one end of the body of the file is also roughened, further contributes to increasing its usefulness.

To further improve performance, the edges of the body of the file are rounded. These variations in the shape of the glass file further extend its usefulness for special cases of hand hygiene.

From the point of view of production technology, it is an advantage if the body of the file can be formed from flat or pressed glass.

All the various shapes of the file can have a glass body formed from hardened glass. The advantages of such a treated glass body are its increased stability and particularly increased safety in the event of breakage of the whole of the glass body by dropping etc. The hardening of the glass-bodied file gives it properties which are well-known in such treated glass.

Brief description of the drawings

The invention can be better described by means of the drawings, of which Figure 1 represents an „axonometric overview of the glass body of the file. Figure 2 presents a cross section of the glass body of the file with roughening on one surface. Figure 3 also shows a cross section of the glass body of the file with roughening on one side and rounded edges. Similarly, Figure 4 presents a cross section of the glass body of the file, both of whose edges are bevelled.

Description of the preferred embodiments

The file according to Figure 1 is formed from a glass body 1, shown here in oblong board shape, with a roughening 4 on the surface 2. The roughening 4 is produced by a wide variety of techniques, the choice depending upon the degree of roughness. To produce the smoothest finish, for example around 10 µm, a chemical process can be used, such as acid engraving with a hydrogen fluoride solution. Greater roughness, of around 100 µm for instance, can be produced mechanically, by sanding for example. Figure 2 shows a cross section of the glass body 1 of the file illustrated in Figure 1, with a roughened finish 4 along the whole of one surface 2.

Figures 3 and 4 illustrate further possible variants on the glass body 1 of the oblong board-shaped file. A cross section is shown of the glass body 1 of the file, with roughening 4 of one surface finish 2, the glass body 1 of the file having rounded edges 3, while the cross section in Figure 4 presents the glass body 1 of the file with edges 3 bevelled to a sharp finish, the glass body 1 of the file having a rough finish 4 on both surfaces 2.

Industrial use of the invention

The glass-bodied file has been described from the point of view of its use as a nail file. This example of use, however, in no way excludes further possible uses in other fields, particularly given the wide range of roughness which can be achieved in the glass-bodied file. A file produced according to this invention with a low degree of roughness, that is to say the finest, can be used in polishing surfaces, for example, while the coarsest can be used for grinding.

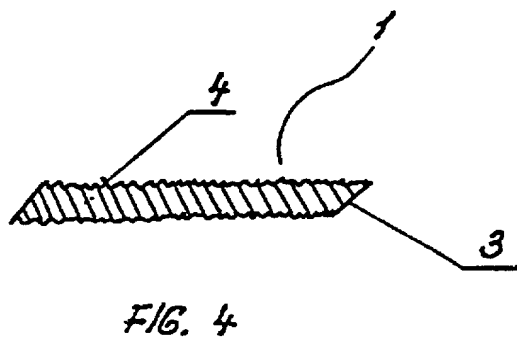
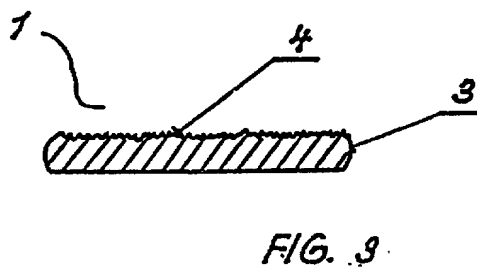
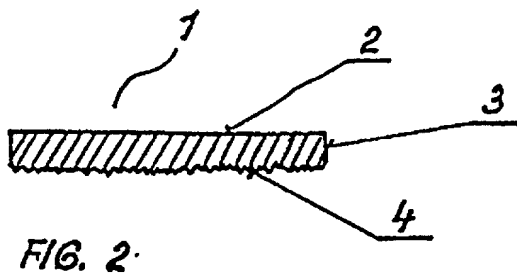
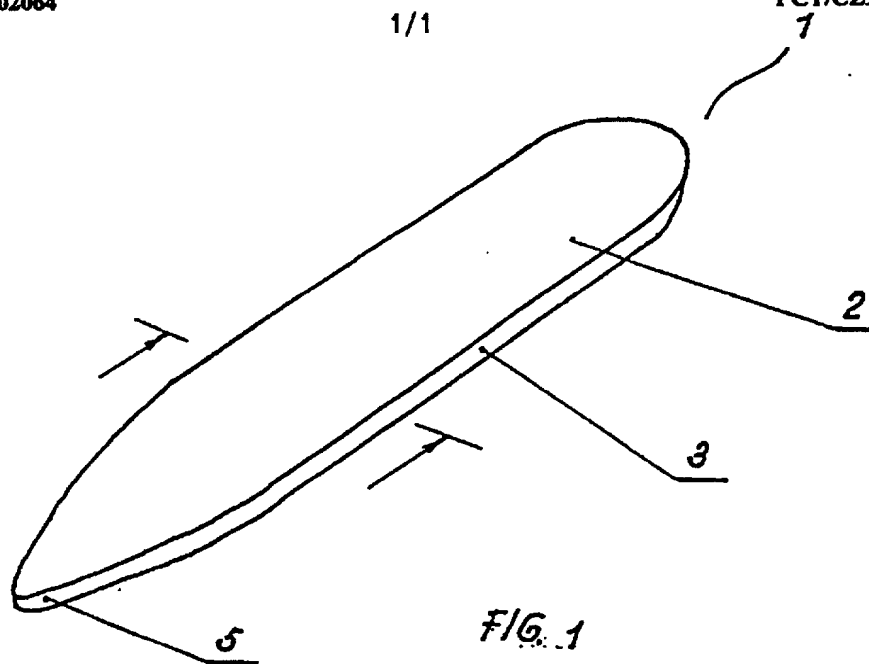
WO 99/02064

PCT/CZ98/00030

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 10 December 1998 (10.12.98);
original claim 1 amended; remaining claims unchanged (1 page)]

1. A file, particularly a nail file, characterized by the fact that the body (1) of the file, including its surface (2), is formed of a single, integral stratum made of glass, where the abrading surface is situated on at least part of the surface (2), with a roughness varying from 10 to 100 μm
2. A file according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the body (1) of the file has an oblong board shape and at least at one of its ends a point (5).
3. A file according to claims 1 or 2, characterized by the fact that the body (1) of the file is roughened at least along the whole of one side, while the point (5) at the end is V-shaped.
4. A file according to claims 1 or 2, characterized by the fact that the body (1) of the file is roughened at least along the whole of one side and is bevelled to a sharp finish on at least one edge (3).
5. A file according to claim 4, characterized by the fact that both edges (3) and at least one end of the body (1) of the file are bevelled, while the bevelled edge at the end is at an oblique angle to the side edge, so that together they form a point.
6. A file according to claim 4, characterized by the fact that the surface of at least one of the edges (3) and of one end of the body (1) of the file is also roughened.
7. A file according to claim 4, characterized by the fact that the edges (3) are rounded.
8. A file according to any of the above claims 1 to 7, characterized by the fact that the body (1) of the file is made of flat glass.
9. A file according to any of the above claims 1 to 7, characterized by the fact that the body (1) of the file is made of pressed glass.
10. A file according to any of the above claims 1 to 10, characterized by the fact that the body (1) of the file is made from hardened glass.



Attorney Docket No. 12691.4USWO

MERCHANT, GOULD, SMITH, EDELL, WELTER & SCHMIDT

United States Patent Application

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: FILE, PARTICULARLY NAIL FILE

The specification of which

a. ☐ is attached hereto

b. ☒ was filed on _____ as application serial no. _____ and was amended on _____
(if applicable) (in the case of a PCT-filed application) described and claimed in international no. PCT/CZ98/00030 filed 9 July 1998 and as amended on _____ (if any), which I have reviewed and for which I solicit a United States patent.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (attached hereto).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

a. ☐ no such applications have been filed.b. ☒ such applications have been filed as follows;

FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC § 119			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)
The Czech Republic	PUV 6936-97	10 July 1997	
ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year)

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Albrecht, John W.	Reg. No. <u>40,481</u>	Lacy, Paul E.	Reg. No. 38,946
Arderson, Gregg I.	Reg. No. <u>28,828</u>	Larson, James A.	Reg. No. 40,443
Ansems, Gregory M.	Reg. No. <u>42,264</u>	Lasky, Michael B.	Reg. No. 29,555
Batzli, Brian H.	Reg. No. <u>32,960</u>	Liepa, Mara E.	Reg. No. 40,066
Beard, John L.	Reg. No. <u>27,612</u>	Lindquist, Timothy A.	Reg. No. 40,701
Berman, Charles	Reg. No. <u>29,249</u>	Lynch, David W.	Reg. No. 36,204
Black, Bruce E.	Reg. No. <u>41,622</u>	Marschang, Diane L.	Reg. No. 35,600
Blasdell, Thomas L.	Reg. No. <u>31,329</u>	McDaniel, Karen D.	Reg. No. 37,674
Bogucki, Raymond A.	Reg. No. <u>17,426</u>	McDonald, Daniel W.	Reg. No. 32,044
Bruess, Steven C.	Reg. No. <u>34,130</u>	McIntyre, Iain A.	Reg. No. 40,337
Byrne, Linda M.	Reg. No. <u>32,404</u>	McKenzie Denise L.	Reg. No. P-43,790
Carlson, Alan G.	Reg. No. <u>25,959</u>	Mueller, Douglas P.	Reg. No. 30,300
Carter, Charles G.	Reg. No. <u>35,093</u>	Nasiedlak, Tyler L.	Reg. No. 40,099
Caspers, Philip P.	Reg. No. <u>33,227</u>	Nelson, Albin J.	Reg. No. 28,650
Chiapetta, James R.	Reg. No. <u>39,634</u>	Parker, Sandra M.	Reg. No. 36,233
Clifford, John A.	Reg. No. <u>30,247</u>	Pauly, Daniel M.	Reg. No. 40,123
Cochran, William W.	Reg. No. <u>26,652</u>	Phillips, John B.	Reg. No. 37,206
Daignault, Ronald A.	Reg. No. <u>25,968</u>	Plunkett, Theodore	Reg. No. 37,209
Daley, Dennis R.	Reg. No. <u>34,994</u>	Pytel, Melissa J.	Reg. No. 41,512
DalGLISH, Leslie E.	Reg. No. <u>40,579</u>	Reich, John C.	Reg. No. 37,703
Daulton, Julie R.	Reg. No. <u>36,414</u>	Reiland, Earl D.	Reg. No. 25,767
DeVries Smith, Katherine M.	Reg. No. <u>42,157</u>	Rittmaster, Ted R.	Reg. No. 32,933
DiPietro, Mark J.	Reg. No. <u>28,707</u>	Schmaltz, David G.	Reg. No. 39,828
Edell, Robert T.	Reg. No. <u>20,187</u>	Schuman, Mark D.	Reg. No. 31,197
Epp Ryan, Sandra	Reg. No. <u>39,667</u>	Schumann, Michael D.	Reg. No. 30,422
Farber, Michael B.	Reg. No. <u>32,612</u>	Sebald, Gregory A.	Reg. No. 33,280
Funk, Steven R.	Reg. No. <u>37,830</u>	Skoog, Mark T.	Reg. No. 40,178
Glance, Robert J.	Reg. No. <u>40,620</u>	Soderberg, Richard	Reg. No. P-43,352
Golla, Charles E.	Reg. No. <u>26,896</u>	Sumner, John P.	Reg. No. 29,114
Gorman, Alan G.	Reg. No. <u>38,472</u>	Sumners, John S.	Reg. No. 24,216
Gould, John D.	Reg. No. <u>18,223</u>	Tellekson, David K.	Reg. No. 32,314
Gregson, Richard	Reg. No. <u>41,804</u>	Trembath, Jon R.	Reg. No. 38,344
Gresens, John J.	Reg. No. <u>33,112</u>	Underhill, Albert L.	Reg. No. 27,403
Hamre, Curtis B.	Reg. No. <u>29,165</u>	Vandenburgh, J. Derek	Reg. No. 32,179
Hillson, Randall A.	Reg. No. <u>31,838</u>	Vradenburgh, Anna M.	Reg. No. 39,868
Holzer, Jr., Richard J.	Reg. No. <u>42,668</u>	Welter, Paul A.	Reg. No. 20,890
Johnston, Scott W.	Reg. No. <u>39,721</u>	Whipps, Brian	Reg. No. 43,261
Kastelic, Joseph M.	Reg. No. <u>37,160</u>	Wickhem, J. Scot	Reg. No. 41,376
Kettelberger, Denise	Reg. No. <u>33,924</u>	Williams, Douglas J.	Reg. No. 27,054
Knearl, Homer L.	Reg. No. <u>21,197</u>	Witt, Jonelle	Reg. No. 41,980
Komanduri, Janaki	Reg. No. <u>40,684</u>	Wood, Gregory B.	Reg. No. 28,133
Kowalchuk, Alan W.	Reg. No. <u>31,535</u>	Wood, William J.	Reg. No. 42,236
Kowalchuk, Katherine M.	Reg. No. <u>36,848</u>	Xu, Min S.	Reg. No. 39,536
Kubota, Glenn M.	Reg. No. <u>P-44,197</u>		

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant, Gould, Smith, Edell, Welter & Schmidt to the contrary.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant, Gould, Smith, Edell, Welter & Schmidt at the address indicated below:

Merchant, Gould, Smith, Edell,
Welter & Schmidt
3100 Norwest Center
90 South Seventh Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402-4131

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

0	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name <u>BLAZEK</u>	First Given Name <u>Dalibor</u>	Second Given Name
	Residence & Citizenship	City <u>Podebrady</u>	State or Foreign Country The Czech Republic <u>C.S.X.</u>	Country of Citizenship The Czech Republic
	Post Office Address	Post Office Address <u>Olbrachtova 600/II</u>	City 290 01 Podebrady	State & Zip Code/Country The Czech Republic
Signature of Inventor 201: <u><i>Dalibor Blazek</i></u>			Date:	